

Amendments to the Specification

Under the Title, Above Paragraph [0001], Replace the Section Heading as follows:

PRIOR-ART BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Amend Paragraph [0001] as follows:

[0001] The invention relates to a wiper lever ~~in accordance with the type designated in the pre-characterizing clause of Claim 1.~~ The wiper lever includes a driven wiper arm on which a wiper blade that can be moved over the to-be-wiped window transverse to its longitudinal extension is linked at a distance from this drive end. The articulated axis of the wiper blade essentially extends in its displacement direction. This articulation is of special importance because the to-be-wiped, generally spherically curved window (e.g., the windshield of a motor vehicle) does not represent a section of a spherical surface. As a result, it must be able to continually adapt the wiper blade during its wiper movement to the respective position and progression of the window surface with respect to the movement plane of the wiper arm. An oscillating movement of the wiper blade vis-à-vis the wiper arm around the aforementioned articulated axis is required for this. In a known generic wiper lever (German Laid Open Print DE-OS 10065124), a wiper blade is provided with correspondingly aligned articulated pins via an articulated part that is solidly connected to it, on which an adapter that belongs to the wiper blade is linked, via which the wiper blade can be attached to the wiper arm. Locking means located on the adapter are supposed to provide for an operationally reliable connection between the wiper arm and the wiper blade in cooperation with counter-locking means of the wiper arm. In the case of this adapter that is U-shaped in cross-section, the walls are formed by the two U-legs of the adapter. The adapter is provided with a tongue featuring a locking tooth that is elastically deflectable parallel to the alignment of the walls on its wall forming the U-base that is at a distance from the wiper blade. This tongue extends beyond the end of the wiper arm, whereby the locking tooth acting as the locking means cooperates with counter-locking means of the wiper arm in the sense of a detachable wiper blade safety device.

In Between Paragraphs [0002] and [0003], Replace the Section Heading as follows:

~~ADVANTAGES OF THE INVENTION~~ SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Amend Paragraph [0003] as follows:

[0003] In the case of the wiper lever in accordance with the invention ~~with the characterizing features of Claim 1,~~ the locking means that are arranged on at least one of the two walls of the adapter and are moveable essentially transverse to the surfaces of these walls require conscious, purposeful handling to detach the lock. Such handling is possible without restriction in the case of the subject of the invention, because access for such handling is also visually free and the detaching movement does not require any difficult hand movements. However, brushes in a car wash cannot trigger the transverse movement required to detach the lock.

In Between Paragraphs [00024] and [00025], Replace the Section Heading as follows:

~~DRAWINGS~~ BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In Between Paragraphs [00037] and [00038], Add the Section Heading as follows:

~~DESCRIPTION OF THE EXEMPLARY EMBODIMENTS~~ DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Amend Paragraph [00044] as follows:

[00044] In the case of another embodiment of the invention depicted in Figures 5 through 8, the articulated part 20 corresponds to the articulated part described above. In this embodiment as well, the adapter 140 has a U-shaped cross-section with U-legs 142, which are provided with open-edged receptacle slots 146. The receptacle slots 146 terminate via narrowings 148 in bearing receptacles 150 for the articulated pins 38 of the articulated part 20. Collar-like projections 160 encircle the bearing receptacles 150 and improve the stability of the adapter as well as the bearing of the articulated pins. Deviating from the previously described embodiment of the invention, in the embodiment according to Figures 5 through 8, deflectable tongues 152 on the one end of the adapter extend from the U-base 144 of the adapter 140 in the direction of the height of the U-legs 142, which represent walls, between which the supporting walls embodied on the articulated part 20 suitably dip. The tongues 152 are formed by extensions of the U-legs 142. A locking tooth 154 is arranged on each of the tongues 152. These locking teeth extend out from their tongues 152 in opposing directions. They are provided with starting bevels 155 on their upper side facing the U-base 144. On the other side of the adapter 140 with respect to the bearing receptacles 150, this adapter has pin-like supports 156 arranged on the outer side of each U-leg 142, which also extend away from each other and are each provided with a rounding on their sides facing the collar-like projections 160. Assigned to these roundings are recesses 158 that serve as support bearings on the front sides of the U-legs 159 of the connecting piece 118, which is U-shaped in cross-section. In addition, the U-legs of the connecting piece 118 are provided with collar-like projections 160, which are assigned to projections 161 that are open-edged toward the free ends of the U-legs. The recesses 161 each have a shoulder 162 pointing toward the support bearings 158. Related to the recesses 161, notches 163 are provided opposite from the support bearings 158 in the U-legs ~~160~~159 and these notches are assigned to the locking teeth 154 of the adapter 140 (Figure 5). The shape of the recesses 161 is adapted in its central area 161' to the progression of the collar walls 164.

Amend Paragraph [00050] as follows:

[00050] An application force providing for the proper application of the wiper strip 30 on the to-be-wiper window 15 and acting from the wiper arm 12 on the wiper blade ~~15~~14 in the direction of arrow 17 (Figure 1) is transmitted reliably from the wiper arm via the connecting part 18, the adapter 40 and the articulated part 20 to the wiper blade 14. The supporting element 22 effects the proper distribution of the application force over the entire longitudinal extension of the wiper strip 30.